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The Green Thumb

A Newsletter of Extension Horticultural Activities and Events
For York County Extension Volunteers

Vol. 6, Issue 10
October, 2005

Calendar of Future Events

See Calendar on the last page for Current Events

Nov 11	Holiday – Offices Closed
Nov 15	Peninsula Master Gardener Graduation
Nov 16	HearSay Radio Show on WHRO 89.5 FM
Nov 24-25	Holiday – Offices Closed
Nov 29, 9:30	Programming Meeting in Big Room, Lunch, MG Class of 2005 as guests
Dec 1	Yorktown Celebrates Christmas preparation (details in November Green Thumb)
Dec 3	Yorktown Celebrates
Dec 7, 9-12	YCMG Advanced Pruning Class
Dec 13, 9:30	Programming Meeting in Big Room, Special Guest Recognition, Pot Luck Brunch
Dec 14, 9:30-12	YCMG Advanced Pruning Class, Field Session
Dec 15, 9:30-12	YCMG Advanced Pruning Class, Field Session
Dec 21	HearSay Radio Show on WHRO 89.5 FM

For additions/corrections to the Calendar of Events contact Jody at 890-4940, or Byrdie Hawley at 898-6175 or E-mail dabhawley@cox.net (Put Green Thumb in the subject line). The deadline for the Green Thumb is ALWAYS the 15th of the month, no exception.

E-mail changes: If you have changes to any of the methods of communication to you please notify Jody. Jody will pass the word. We want to keep in contact with you. These changes will be posted to the weekly e-mails and will be in the Green Thumb.

Thursdays Work/Learn Day in the Learning Garden 9:30 – 11:30 a.m:

The first Thursday of each month we start with a planning meeting in the Environmental Services Building and then are in the garden, time permitting.

- Please note that the **November Programming meeting** will be held in the big room of St. Luke's, 9:30, on Nov 29th. The MG Training Class of 2005 are our guests. Drinks and paper goods will be provided; bring a dish to share. We will also have a plant exchange for those that wish to participate.

Master Gardener Mission Statement

Our mission, as trained volunteers in partnership with the York County, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, is to provide horticultural educational opportunities to the public through research-based horticultural programs and activities to enhance our environment, lives and community.

www.ext.vt.edu

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

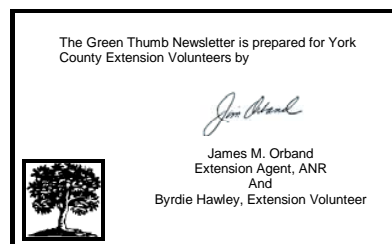
Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless, of race, color, religion, sex, Age, veteran status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Notes from Jim

A new program season will soon be here in January. Please return the enclosed form by November 8, 2005. As mentioned in the October Newsletter, Now is the time to evaluate your involvement in the York County Cooperative Extension program. Please indicate your desire to participate and return as soon as you can.

Be sure to listen to "Gardening Hearsay" on October 12, 12:00–1:00 pm on WHRO – 89.5.

Thanks, Jim



Look Up Virginia

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

Seeking to reduce tree/utility conflict by educating, influencing and encouraging people to recognize the conflict, remove problematic tree/utility situations and plant appropriately.

Go to <http://www.dof.virginia.gov/urban/resources/2005-10-09-look-up-va.pdf> for more information.
Register by October 7.

State Master Gardener Coordinator Endowment - If you would like to contribute towards the endowment to ensure a permanent state master gardener coordinator at Virginia Tech without any out of pocket expense, register your MVP card at the Food Lion website, and they'll automatically donate a percent of your purchases towards this goal. Go to www.foodlion.com. Click on "In the community, Lion Shop & Share." The organization you are registering for is Virginia Master Gardener Association. Its location is Goldvein, VA, because that's where VMGA's treasurer lives. If you have any questions, call Jackie Lohr 898-5741.

Turfgrass Troubles

Hi everyone. I have been receiving lots of calls regarding troubles with turf across all segments of Virginia's turf industry that are directly related to the fact that summer just will not let go regardless of the date on the calendar. With this in mind, I have developed a new Turfgrass Clipping that is being uploaded to www.VTTURF.com Friday, Sept. 23 regarding what is happening around the state in turfgrass management and what we can be doing. Point clientele to this site to review what they likely can and cannot do to their turf at this time. This information joins previous "stress update" Clippings previously posted at VTTURF.com. I hope this info will help you better explain the challenges of the summer of 2005.

My best to everyone.

Mike

[illegible]

Michael Goatley, Turfgrass Specialist, Virginia Tech, CSES Department, 424 Smyth Hall

Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-0403; Tel: 540/231-2951 or Fax: 540/231-3075; www.VTTURF.com

**HORTICULTURAL THERAPY GROUP
MEETS THE FOURTH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
AT YORK CONVALESCENT CENTER
113 Battle Road, Yorktown, VA 23692**

Needed items: Plastic bottle caps, floral foam (can be used), wire, tape, etc. The next session will be **October 25, 2005 at 10:15 AM**. Bring clippers or scissors and some greenery from your garden. Contact Brenda Bradshaw to volunteer: 898-4733 or email C.Bradshaw@att.net.

MG-VCE Milestone Awards Recognized at Master Gardener College - Congratulations to our master gardeners who were honored at Master Gardener College this June for attaining various levels of the Milestone Awards! Way to go, York County Master Gardeners!!

<u>250 HOURS</u> Clare Britcher Barbara Dunbar Harry Haley Karen Hokansson Gina Niedenberger Larry Riddick Marge Schenck Wanda Turner	<u>500 HOURS</u> Felice Bond Janine Casey John Dickens Barbara Dunbar Larry Riddick	<u>1000 HOURS</u> Carol Brower Audrey Hinderliter Steve Hinderliter Norma Jackson Bernice Little Evelyn Anne Pinckney	<u>2000 HOURS</u> Evelyn Parker <u>4000 HOURS</u> Diane Short
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The Horticulture Department of Cornell University is pleased to announce a new fall and winter roster of online courses for gardeners. We have increased our offerings to 3 courses:

- The How, When, and Why of Grafting for Gardeners
- Organic Gardening
- Propagation by Cutting and Layering

Each course is 8-10 weeks long, and takes place entirely online- no campus visit is necessary. We encourage a real online community in our courses. Rather than websites designed primarily to read information, our courses have an important interactive component that stimulates learning from each other. Each course has a strong set of labs to be done at home -- whether grafting hibiscus at your kitchen table, studying the structure of your own garden soil, or propagating the plants growing around your home or neighborhood. The courses do not carry college credit, and are aimed at adult learners with busy schedules. Master Gardeners can get a discount on these courses -- get three of your county's Master Gardeners to sign up for any of courses, and all will receive a 20% discount.

The Propagation course runs October 17th to December 11; Organic Gardening, January 16 to March 12; and Grafting is in the spring, March 13 to May 21. Further course information and registration can be found at <http://www.cce.cornell.edu/hortdl/>. Further questions can be directed to Marguerite Wells at 607-255-9911 or mw38@cornell.edu

Please note: A course in Micro propagation (tissue culture and other cellular methods) is in the works.

Below are excerpts from a letter from Joe Maroon, Director of the Department of Conservation & Recreation requesting public input for the Virginia Outdoors Plan for 2007:

The *Virginia Outdoors Plan* is the Commonwealth's official conservation, outdoor recreation, and open space plan. The 2007 edition of the *Virginia Outdoors Plan* (VOP) serves as a guidance document for the protection of lands through actions of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (VLCF). Its development is also necessary in order to meet requirements for Virginia's participation in the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (VLCF) program.

We need citizens, agencies, and organizations with an interest in the future of Virginia and our natural, recreational, cultural, and historical resources to be represented at one or more of the meetings that will be held in the Commonwealth this Fall. At these meetings, staff from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will be providing information on the VOP development process and encouraging citizens to give their comments on issues and concerns.

Meetings will be held during the months of October and November. At each location, there will be a **3 pm** meeting and a **7 pm** meeting.

Contact **Robert Munson** at 804-786-6140 for meetings in: Radford-Oct 3, Marion-Oct 4, Lebanon-Oct 5, Duffield-Oct 6 (for PD1), Martinsville-Nov 2, South Hill-Nov 3

Contact **Bill Conkle** at 804-786-5492 for meetings in: Saluda-Oct 4, Warsaw-Oct 6, Fredericksburg-Oct 11,

Contact: **Jennifer Wampler** 804-786-9240 for meetings in: Richmond-Oct 5, Accomac-Oct 18, Chesapeake-Oct 19, Petersburg-Oct 26

Contact: **Lynn Crump** 804-786-5054 for meetings in: Front Royal-Oct 13, Roanoke-Oct 18, Staunton-Oct 20, Fairfax-Oct 25

Contact: **Beth Reed** 804-786-2556 for meetings in: Culpeper-Oct 25, Charlottesville-Oct 26, Lynchburg-Nov 2, Farmville-Nov 2

DCR will also be accepting comments in writing at Commonwealth of Virginia, 203 Governor Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219-2010 (please put Attn: John Davy, Division Director, Planning and Recreation Resources, on the envelope), or e-mail our office at the following address, vop@dcr.virginia.gov.

MID-ATLANTIC HORTICULTURE SHORT COURSE

January 31-Feb. 3, 2006

Sponsored by the Virginia Horticultural Foundation

We Need a Few Good Volunteers To Serve As Program Moderators.

To review the program visit www.mahsc.org or check in your local Extension office.

The Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course will be held at the Oceanfront Ramada Plaza Resort Conference Center in Virginia Beach, January 31-February 3, 2006. This is an opportunity for Master Gardeners to serve as moderators for the short course training sessions.

Volunteer moderators pay a \$25 admission to the short course in exchange for moderating one day. Moderators should sign up for all the classes they wish to attend and we will assign which day/subject they will moderate based on their selections and on a first come first serve basis. A "ready-room" will be available for moderators to use prior to their sessions. Moderators will be responsible for session preparation, introduction of the speaker, speaker assist as necessary, lights, and evaluation collection and tabulation for each session they moderate. New volunteer moderators must attend an orientation held at the hotel site to become familiar with their duties and the hotel layout.

Because the Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course is an educational program, your volunteer hours as a moderator count toward your Master Gardener hours.

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer moderator for the Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course, please **contact Mike Andruczyk at (757) 382-6348 or mikeand@vt.edu by December 1st**. Make sure to leave your name, addresses (home and internet), and phone #.

Please take the time to review this opportunity. We welcome your assistance if you are able.

Sincerely,

Laurie Fox and Mike Andruczyk
Moderator Coordinators

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We're on the Web!

www.yorkcounty.gov/vce



October 2005



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6 9-12am: YCMG Pruning Class, New Quarter Park/Williamsburg	7	1 <hr/> 8
9	10	11 9:30 AM Programming meeting 9am-12n, Basic Entomology	12 WHRO 12-1	13 9am-12n, Plant Pathology	14	15
16	17 District Fall Conference	18 9am-12n, IPM	19	20 9am-12n, Principles of Organic Horticulture	21	22 New Quarter Park Fall Festival 10 – 4 PM www.yorkcounty.gov
23	24	25 9am-12n, Landscape Design 10:15AM Hort Therapy – York Convalescent Ctr	26 Look Up Virginia, Lewis Ginter	27 9am-12n, Veg- etable Garden/ Fruits, Dave Close, State MG Coord- inator Guest/ PMG Training	28	29
30	31 Halloween					